

Abstract

An apparatus for the fabrication of metal matrix composite structures comprising the continuous joining by brazing, soldering or welding of aluminum matrix tape using a laser to melt the surface of the tape while applying pressure to the tape and simultaneously contacting it with previously applied tape layers on a surface. The apparatus utilized to accomplish this fabrication process may include a variety of pre and post-contact heaters and preferably includes instruments for the continuous monitoring and control of the process.

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